

Hello,

I just wanted to let you know, I spoke to my birth mother for the first time on Thursday. The first thing she said after the silence, was can I come see you?!

WE spoke about 40 minutes. And she called me again today wanting to know when a good time to come and visit would be. She said July was too far off.

It was so nice speaking with her. Very emotional as I am sure you can imagine.

Well, she has told her sister and her nieces. The whole family is at my birth grandparents home for Shabbat, and she will share the story with her husband, and my siblings and my grandmother. Her husband and children did not know about me. But she's been telling them for a LONG time that one day she had something very special and important to share with them.

I cannot thank you enough for all your advice. And for everyone's effort in getting the info.

Thank you so much. I'll be in touch after our meeting.

GD, NY



I just wanted to write and let you know that I contacted my Son on Thursday evening... It was more than I could have ever hoped for!!! He was open and very receptive, we had a wonderful conversation and have begun to exchange pictures and pieces of our lives. It still doesn't seem real yet, but I do know that every time he crosses my mind now...there is no longer that sickening ache that used to course its way through my heart. I am just amazed at his receptiveness and feel so fortunate! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me to end this 36 year old mystery...I finally not only KNOW...I have been welcomed into his life.

THANK YOU....

JM, AI



Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, and one for helping others.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed and redeemed; never throw out anyone!

Thank you for locating my son. This occurred in November, 2000: I am the mother, SF in search of my son.

I procrastinated a while and finally contact was made, successfully, last week. He did not know that he was adopted but he is delighted now with the news. His life was and is good, he is healthy and happy and all of the rest of the things I would have wanted for him in life. I have two magnificent grandsons. His parents deserve all the riches that life can offer for the beautiful job that did raising him.

Arrangements are in progress for a face to face meeting. It is just amazing how much we have in common.

This happy occurrence would not have been possible without you Ms Lee.

In greatest gratitude  
SF.. Ma.

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Just wanted to give you a very successful update. I have been in contact with the adoptive parents and with my birth son. The adoptive father and I spoke by phone on Friday. He was receptive to the call and gave me a lot of details. I left it up to him as to how to handle my calling and to take some time and he promised to get back in touch with me.

This past Tuesday, he told him that I had called. He immediately called me. I was not at home and he left a message. I listened to the message over and over and over yesterday morning until I finally got up enough nerve to call him. We talked, cried, and laughed for over an hour. He sent pictures via email last night. It is a very happy reunion. Thank you!!!

Sincerely  
SK, VA

Hi Chris and Kinsolving Investigation Team,

Thanks to Kinsolving I contacted my birthmother December, 1999 - What a great Christmas gift! I have two beautiful birthsisters and a brother. They live in NC and when I flew in the first time to visit them My sisters and Mom meet me at the Airport with lots of loving hugs and a friend of theirs was there taking pictures to record our happy reunion. After a whirlwind three days that Christmas my wife and I spent 9 days there. We visited them for my 50th birthday in June 2000 this past April 2001 6 members of my birth family (my birthmom, my two sisters, Brother-in-law and niece and nephew) came to visit me in San Francisco, California where I live. They stayed 9 days great days. My sisters and I talk frequently and all I can say is it has changed my life.

Thank you, thank you,

JS Ca

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Chris,

I have personally referred several people to you who have asked me about searching from reading my Birthfamily page on my website. I also have a link to your site on that page. Don't know, though, how many have followed through on the referral.

Thanks to you , I have met many members of my birthfamily. One of the most informative members and one that I was closest to was my elderly cousin who passed away this spring.

Thank you for the opportunity to have known her for these past 5 years.

ED, NC

Chris-

Just got back from NYC where I spent my 35th birthday with my family...adoptive, that is. It was wonderful!!! I brought my mom a picture of P and she saw some resemblance. I'm glad that she's so accepting of everything. It was an amazing trip and since meeting P I have truly grown to appreciate (even more than I already did, which was A LOT!!!) how lucky I am to have been adopted into such a wonderful family.

I don't love my birthmother. I barely know her. I like her...I think she's a good person, but I don't love someone until I get to know them, this goes for all the men and women in my life. I do not love her unconditionally just because she gave birth to me. But that's just the way I am. I've always been a bit guarded with my emotions. It takes me a while to trust people and to let them into my heart and soul. Like most everyone, I have been hurt and betrayed, even at a very young age.

You are right about my judging my birth father based on her words alone. However, she did speak to his brother, who she has kept in touch with on and off over the years, and he said that he didn't even remember her being pregnant until he reminded him. Apparently, he was doing lots of drugs during that period of his life. Oh well.

Thanks for writing back.

Best,

NH - NY

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Hi Chris

Just thought I would let you know about the latest developments. As you suggested I called my birthmom about a week after we last spoke. We talked for about an hour. I told her I wanted to send her a letter in response to hers. She told me it was OK as her husband doesn't read her mail. So a few days later I sent a letter with a wedding picture of me and my husband and photos of my kids. She called me this past Monday and told me that she finally decided to tell her husband about me. She said she asked God for a sign while in church on Sunday and just after she did a family with 3 boys--same ages as mine sat down in front of her. Anyway that was her sign and she told her husband that evening. His reaction was great. She said he was very accepting and understanding. You could just hear it in her voice how excited she was. She plans on coming here the next time she gets to the east coast--no definite date as of yet. She

said at this point she just wants to keep it between her and her husband. Well things are progressing. I will keep you posted. And thank you again for your advise about making the initial phone call. It was definitely the best thing I could have done. She needed to hear my voice and talk for that first contact. I feel that I have lifted a great burden from her and that she has a sense of peace she has never had before. Thanks Chris

MK,NY

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Hi Chris, I called my son and talked with him for 2 hours. He is all for meeting me. I can hardly wait. It was a very nice conversation. I also called his mother and taked with her for 1 1/2 hrs. She is all for meeting and having a relationship too. They feel the more people that love J it can not hurt anything. I thank you again for all you did in such a short time. It was well worth the money.

B.L., LA

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Hi,

Here again to thank you. I have not spent time with my birthson and his wife and children, my grandsons, He will be coming here soon to meet his huge family .He is everything I could have dreamed of for him. He is a delightful man, his a parents did a wonderful job. He is healthy, happy and in love with his wife and babies. Good education, some summa cum laude's, good job, nice home, many friends, happy vocations. I love him for who he is.

Thank you again for providing my link to him. I hope your life is as happy as mine.

SF -MA

I am a social worker and I work as a case manager for social assistance. I have a case load of approx. 70 clients and their families. I work from a Holistic Perspective, so it is not simply about issuing out \$ for me, it is about who the person is and the issues they face.

I am a late in life social worker [1997] with a diploma in women's studies. Going to school in this field gave me a deeper understanding of how my daughter and I were lost to each other. I was able to intellectualize my experience, work through my stuff [feelings] before first contact. I knew I had to be there for my daughter to make this reunion successful. She is a beautiful spirit who has opened her heart and mind to me and her siblings.

I read that you are a bmother too? This is an exciting time for me as my husband finds his bfamily. Whatever the outcome, he will know and I will be here for him.

I have a web site and I speak of kinsolving. I have added a link to your site. My site is a work in progress but tells my story.

I speak highly of you and the service you provide. I do not ever regret contracting you to find my daughter. I would do it again in a heart beat.  
I now place my husbands search in your capable hands.

BH - WA



Dear Chris,

After I spoke with you, I did as you suggested and made two lists of questions to ask my son. I called him at night, and kept getting his answering machine. I did not feel right leaving a message (for obvious reasons) so I continued trying, to no avail.

Last Friday afternoon, around 4pm, I called him from my office, and lo and behold, he answered. I did not have my lists with me, but I remembered everything I wanted to know, and then some. He had no recriminations whatsoever and we spoke for over an hour. I have a description of him and know about his girlfriend and his a/mother and his sister. His a/father is deceased, and his a/parents have been divorced since he was 10. His a/mother has been remarried for twenty years. The conversation was...lively, if you can believe it. He was relaxed and seemed very comfortable speaking with me. We have agreed to exchange pictures and when I gave him my address and telephone number, he asked if he could read it back to me.

I was overwhelmed at how well this went, and could not have scripted the conversation any more to my liking. He appears happy, well adjusted, and firmly planted. He told me he had never been in trouble, in jail or engaged (odd combination of terms?). He did tell me that he had been

dating a girl when he was 29, who was 7 years his junior, who became pregnant, and they discussed the various options. While he felt it was their decision, he also realized that the brunt of the decision rested on her shoulders. He offered marriage, support, or adoption. I had to interrupt. "Adoption? You would actually condone that, considering your circumstances?" His response was, "There is nothing wrong with adoption. There is nothing wrong with what you did, except for the pain that you had to endure. I am truly sorry for that." Upon further discussion, it came out that this girl miscarried.

He also told me that people have told him he looks like Tom Cruise. (Top Gun just happened to be on TV Saturday night, so you can imagine that I was glued to the set!)

I am trying to temper my excitement with some common sense, but I am very anxious to take the next step.

How do you suggest I proceed? My thoughts are to send him some pictures of me, and wait until he sends me his pictures, and then I would call him and we could discuss the pictures. Does that sound like a feasible plan?

I cannot begin to express my gratitude to you and your staff in your expeditious search for my son. This has been, and continues to be, a heady experience, and truly, I am not sure if "it" has even hit me, yet. I like him, and he sounds so happy. I just cannot believe my good fortune to have 1. found him and 2. spoken to him and 3. laughed with him 4. heard his voice.

I prayed on Thursday night and told God that I was scared and lost and would He please intervene and help me. I turned it all over to Him and awoke that following day, feeling refreshed and happy, for the first time in awhile. I discounted the reason, figuring a good night's sleep never does any harm and went off to work. At around 4pm I just picked up the phone and called. It is truly a blessing that I found you and God must have been meandering around the internet leading me to you.

Again, I thank you. Good people do good things, Chris, and you are one of them. By the way, I thanked God, too.  
Please advise.

Regards,

FR -PA

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Dear Kinsolving:

We wanted to thank you so much for all your help in connecting us with his birth mother. They have now spoken several times on the phone and we are in the process of exchanging photos. The conversations could not have gone better, we can't thank you enough.

SB - CA

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Chris:

Well, I called on Thursday night at about 10:15 (EST). I explained the situation, somewhat nervously, and we spoke for about 20 minutes. He then said he would call me back later on that night as he had to digest the information and collect his bearings. Between calls he spoke with his mother, who was a little tentative, his father, who said he would support him 100%, and his sister, who was also adopted and had initiated a search for her birth parents and was extremely pleased with the results. She told him it would be one of the best things he ever did. He called me back at about 11:15 and we spoke until 1:30, going over various aspects of our life. There were many similarities,

In short, the call was great.

Friday, I e-mailed 10 pictures to him and he sent me one as well. He looks similar to my father. He and my sister spoke on Friday night and had another wonderful experience. They spoke for over an hour and hit it off as well. He called me on Sat. night to talk again and it was great.



We are flying out to LA on Friday morning, staying through Tuesday. He is taking a half day on Friday and a full day on Monday. The four of us have already set up dinner on Friday night, brunch on Sunday, and golfing on Monday afternoon (just the guys). His wife is sweet..All in all, the experience was much better than even my wildest expectation.

From myself and my sister, we want to express our most heart-felt thanks for bestowing upon us this wonderful gift. I'm positive that the trip will be a success and will let you know next week how it turned out.

DO -NY



Chris:

Well, my sister and I just returned from L.A. and the entire trip was unbelievable. We met on Friday night shared pictures and stories and had many a cocktail from the wet bar!! Since our phone conversations were quite detailed and very amicable, the first meeting was not awkward in the least. It was as if we had known each other for 25 years. We ended up going out to dinner on Friday and went to some bars in Pasadena afterward. I ended up sleeping at their house in LA on Friday night. Saturday and Sunday consisted of hanging out, seeing the city, going to some hot spots in LA, barbequing in their backyard and just bonding and sharing experiences.

Monday we went golfing and although the temperature was a searing 103 in the desert, we had a great time. They dropped me off at the airport to a tear-filled goodbye on Monday night at 11PM. We are planning to meet in Chicago in October and they are coming out here in February. My mother is going to call him tonight or tomorrow, something which he fully endorses. The whole experience was simply amazing and there is no doubt that he is the right person. He looks EXACTLY like my father. Thanks again for a job well done and for enriching our lives in a way that is too profound to put into words.

DO - NY

Christine,

I do wish to tell you that I found my birthchild myself last Aug. 2000 and shortly after my last inquiry to you. I want to thank you for the encouragement your newsletters gave me these past few years. I had started actively searching in 1979, and had alternated between searching, laying a trail for him to find me, and licking my wounds.

He is now 39 years old , still unmarried, and whose adopted mother DIED WHEN HE WAS 7 YEARS OLD !!! His adopted Dad was thrilled that we "hooked up" and sent him plane tickets to visit me in FL for his birthday in October. I got to make him MY first birthday cake. As I am also unattached with no family closer than 1500 miles, we ran around doing a lot of spontaneous fun things for a long weekend that was too short. We call and email frequently, and he has had mutual contact with my other children in NY,CA, & MA., also all unmarried professionals. ...One of the good reunions.

I have passed your information on to several other birthmothers, and even if you don't actually do the case for them, know that you give hope....

Thank you again, and may God bless you in your important work.

JB

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Hi Chris

Just wanted to give you an update on my birthmother. We have been corresponding more frequently, phone, letters and email. She is planning on coming to visit me on October 4th for 5 days. She is coming by herself. We have planned to meet in NYC in December with her husband. She is going to tell her sons but is waiting for the right time. They will be home next week so my feeling is that she will tell them then. She has said over and over how wonderful it is that we are now in contact and that it has made her life wonderful beyond belief.

Thanks again for all your assistance. Your advise on the first phone call was really perfect.

LR - NY

Dear Friends at Kinsolving,

I Would like you to know that I 'miraculously' found my 'long lost' nephew last fall. There were missing records, records under a name I did not know about, etc.

You may not even been able to find him!! And when found he did not know he had been adopted!

He is a wonderful man who lived through a difficult life in a 'dysfunctional' adoptive family where the mother committed suicide, etc, and through it all he turned out to be a fine person. He is so happy to have a new family, the family of his birth father, and has completely accepted us. I have talked to his birth mother's family.

I simply would like to thank you for all your advice.

Thank you.  
M. M.

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Subj: just a note of thanks

Last fall I contracted you to find my birth mother. She rejected my original call, only to call me back when she got to work the next day. Apparently her husband knew nothing and she was not willing to dig up the past with him then. I came to find out about my brother who was adopted by our grandmother at birth. Now I have a wonderful relationship with my birthmom, my brother and my 3 aunts and uncles as well as their families. Thank you so much for all you have done!

My adoptive mother has been incredibly supportive throughout this entire process and like me is looking forward to meeting my birth mother face to face in the fall. My brother who is stationed in SanDiego is coming for a visit at that time and we all hope to get together. This will be his first meeting with our mother too! Not only have you helped me in my personal quest but my younger brother too!

Thank you so much-  
LJ - NC